

WHEN IT FLOODS...

Be prepared! Get details about flooding at kingcounty.gov/floodservices

BEFORE

1 Know your flood hazard. If you were mailed this newsletter, your home or property is in or near a floodplain. Learn more at kingcounty.gov/FEMAmap or call 206-477-4812.

2 Buy flood insurance. Standard homeowners insurance does not cover loss caused by flooding, and there can be a 30-day waiting period on new flood insurance policies.

Learn more at floodsmart.gov or call 800-427-4661.

3 Protect yourself and your family.

- Update emergency plans for your family, farm, or business and choose a meeting place in case family members get separated.
- Know several routes from your home or business to high ground.
- Use sandbags to protect your home or property (see inside map for free distribution locations).
- Pick an out-of-state friend or relative to call with information if local lines are busy.
- Assemble an emergency kit (see below).
- Talk to neighbors about flood preparedness, previous experiences, and any special assistance you or they may need.

4 Protect your property and pets from flood hazards.

- Move vehicles, equipment, and livestock/pets to higher ground and store valuables and household chemicals above flood levels.
- Anchor and secure propane tanks and other fuel containers.
- Install check valves in building sewer traps to prevent floodwaters from backing up in sewer drains.
- Never dump waste in storm drains; dispose of litter and animal waste in trash cans; and sweep sidewalks, gutters, driveways, and other paved surfaces. Clean storm drains require less maintenance and help keep our rivers and streams clean for drinking, wildlife, and recreation.

REGISTER FOR ALERTS

Visit kingcounty.gov/flood to sign up for alerts for different river systems in King County.

DURING

1 Do not walk, wade, or drive through flooded areas. Turn around. Don't drown.

2 If your vehicle stalls in a flooded area, abandon it as soon as possible. Walk back the way you came to safety.

3 Call the King County Flood Warning Center at 206-296-8200 or 800-945-9263 for information on flood conditions and forecasts.

4 Be prepared for an evacuation notice from authorities. If advised to evacuate, do so immediately. Follow recommended evacuation routes, as shortcuts may be blocked.

5 If you are unable to safely leave your home or a building due to rapidly rising waters, call 911 for help. Then move to a higher floor or to the roof. Take warm, weatherproof clothing, a flashlight, a mobile phone, and a portable radio.

6 When flooding is imminent, but only if time permits:

- Close your main gas valve.
- Turn off all utilities in your building at the main power switch. Do not touch any electrical equipment unless it is in a dry area or you are standing on a piece of dry wood while wearing rubber-soled shoes and rubber gloves.
- Record flood statistics such as time, gage reading, and local flood elevations for future use in understanding flooding in your neighborhood. Include specific observations at your home or business.

NEED HELP?

Call **206-477-4812** if you need help looking up a property, need to confirm your property is in the floodplain, or want more information about elevation certificates.

AFTER

1 Before reentering your home, be cautious of potential structural damage, gas leaks, electrical shorts, and live wires.

2 Have a professional check your heating system electrical panel, outlets, and appliances for safety before using. Call the gas company to have the gas turned back on.

3 Follow procedures for safe cleanup of household items, food, water supply, and property.

4 Document your losses. Photograph damage and record repair costs. Contact your insurance agent for flood loss claims.

5 Mark the high water point in your home or damaged structure.

6 Pump out flooded basements gradually (about one-third of the water per day) to avoid structural damage.

7 Do not dump sand from sandbags into creeks as it impairs water quality. Store for future use.

8 Check your local news outlets for updates on disaster assistance and registration procedures.

Build Responsibly

Any development in the floodplain needs a permit. New construction, building repairs, additions, excavation, grading, fill, or any other change to your property must be permitted and follow the standards in your community's floodplain management regulations. Any repairs or improvements to buildings in the floodplain that exceed 50 percent of their value are required to be elevated or flood-proofed.

Building responsibly ensures that people and buildings are safer from flooding. Floodplain management regulations make our flood-prone areas less dangerous for all who live and work there by reducing each development's impact on other properties.

Before starting a project, contact your jurisdiction's permitting agency or the King County Department of Local Services, Permitting Division at 206-296-6600 or go to kingcounty.gov/permits.

Recommended Emergency Kit Supplies

More at: [Ready.gov/kit](https://ready.gov/kit)



- Battery or crank-operated radio and extra batteries
- First aid supplies and a whistle
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Copies of important documents in a plastic bag (driver's license, insurance and bank information, and contact information)
- Several days' worth of water and nonperishable food for your family and animals
- Warm clothing, sturdy shoes/boots, and blankets
- Personal hygiene and sanitation supplies
- Prescription medicines
- Comfort items for children (blanket, books, toys)
- Cell phone with chargers and backup batteries



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2021-2022

BE FLOOD READY

YOUR GUIDE TO FLOOD PREPAREDNESS IN KING COUNTY



Hello!

If you are receiving this brochure by mail, your home or property is in or near a floodplain.

KING COUNTY RIVERS MAP →



Chair Dave Upthegrove

Flood Ready Together

A message from the King County Flood Control District

In 2021, we have seen firsthand the devastating impacts that flooding can have on communities. Whether here in the U.S. or overseas, catastrophic flooding has destroyed homes, businesses, and schools; caused widespread power outages; forced thousands to flee their properties; and, sadly, led to loss of life. It is a stark reminder that flood risk is real, and we need to be prepared.

As the King County Flood Control District works to protect people and property from flooding, it is increasingly employing an integrated floodplain management approach to its projects. This integrated approach ensures the District not only protects public safety and infrastructure, but also seeks to protect our environment and improve the resiliency of our communities.

While the District's work is key to flood readiness and resiliency, we all have a role to play in preparing for floods. Together we can save lives, support our economy, and care for our planet.

Here's what you can do:

- **Know your flood risk.** Visit kingcounty.gov/FEMAmap to check any address in King County or call 206-477-4812.
- **Obtain flood insurance.** Go to floodsmart.gov to rate your flood risk, estimate premiums, and find an agent.
- **Stay informed.** Sign up for King County Flood Alerts and download the King County Flood Warning App at kingcounty.gov/flood.
- **Turn around. Don't drown.** Never walk, swim, or drive through floodwaters.
- **Share this information with your loved ones.** Inform your friends and family.

Thank you for all that you are doing to prepare for the upcoming flood season. Together, we can ensure our communities stay safe.

Dave Upthegrove

Dave Upthegrove
Chair, King County Flood Control District

kingcountyfloodcontrol.org | @CMUpthegrove



Flooding in the Snoqualmie Valley, December 2015

Beyond River Basins: A Holistic Approach to Floodplains

King County is home to several river watersheds that carry water flows from the Cascade Mountains to Puget Sound. These rivers pass through forested, agricultural, and highly urbanized areas. Our normally wet Pacific Northwest weather, coupled with global trends of shifting weather patterns and heavy rainfall, mean that flooding is a significant threat.

Historically, rivers in King County have flooded in every month except August. River flooding has led to 13 presidentially declared disasters in King County since 1990. The most recent flooding disaster was declared in 2020.

To reduce the risk to people and property from river flooding, the King County Flood Control District invests in regional programs and projects. More recently, the approach to flood management has encompassed entire floodplains, not just the river basins.

While flood risk reduction is the top priority, addressing the floodplains more broadly achieves additional goals of social justice, equity, and environmental protection. This integrated approach supports habitat protection and salmon recovery; resilient communities and ecosystems; productive and viable agriculture; sustainable development; jobs and sustainable livelihoods; open space conservation; recreation; opportunities to connect people with nature; and clean water for all.

While our rivers and rainfall mean that flooding is always a risk for our area, we can prepare, manage the risk, and use smart planning to benefit both our communities and our environment.

STAY INFORMED

FREE KING COUNTY FLOOD WARNING APP

Get real-time flooding info with our free app! Monitor current river flows, river stage data, forecasts, and real-time flood phases.

Sign up at kingcounty.gov/flood.



FOLLOW US!



@KCFloodDistrict and @KCDNRP



@KingCountyDNRP



@KingCountyDNRP

PHONE, TEXT MESSAGE, OR EMAIL

Sign up for free automated flood alerts. You can personalize alerts by river and flood phase.

kingcounty.gov/flood or call **206-477-4899**

KING COUNTY FLOOD ALERT!



Printed on recycled paper. Please recycle.

General

Alternative formats available. 206-477-4812 (TTY Relay: 711)

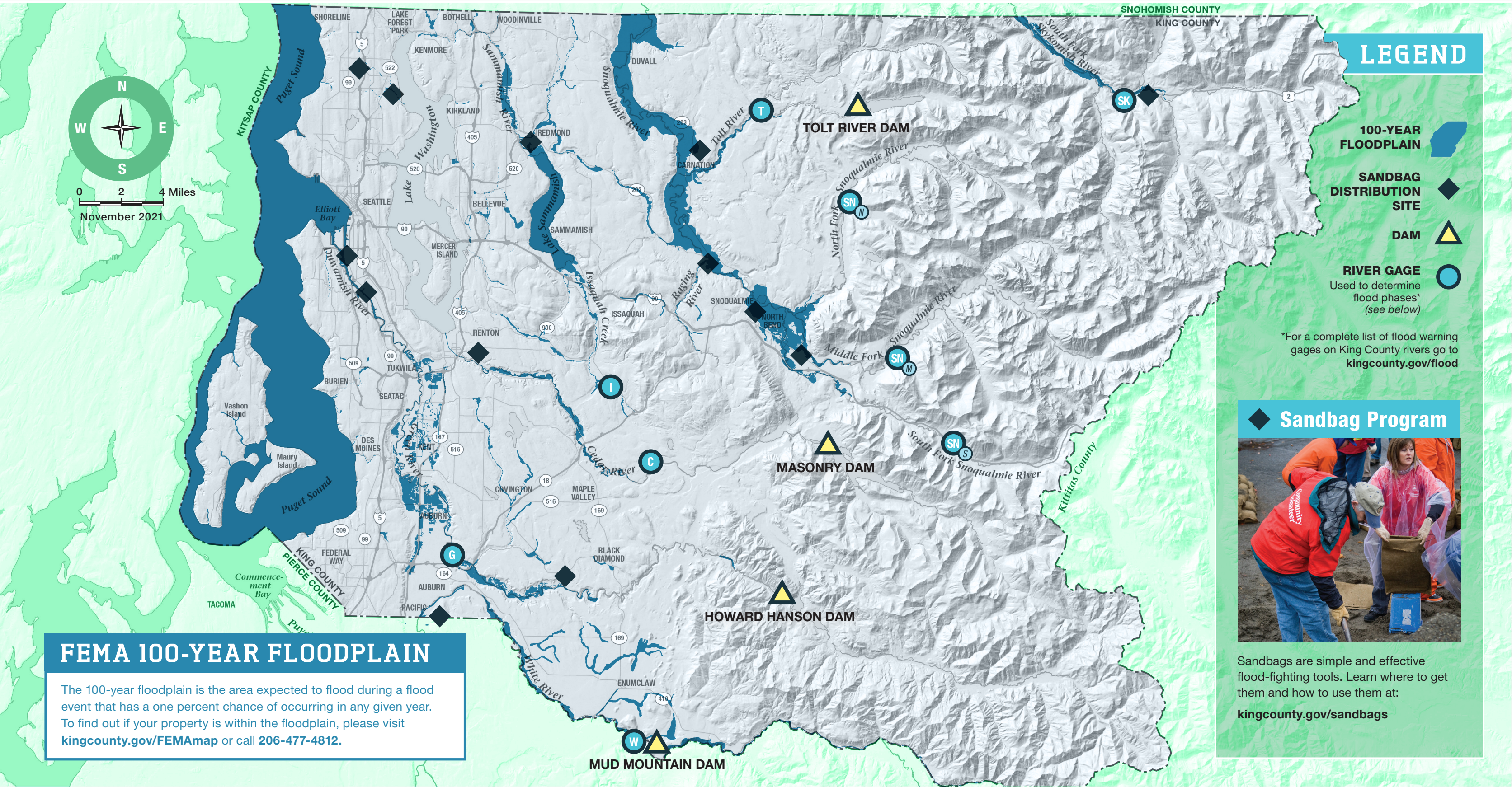
Materiales traducidos y servicios de intérprete están disponible bajo solicitud. 206-477-4812; TTY: 711

KING COUNTY RIVER SYSTEMS

KING COUNTY FLOOD WARNING CENTER



206-296-8200 or 800-945-9263 Interpreter services available; TTY 711.
Materiales traducidos y servicios de intérprete están disponible bajo solicitud: 206-477-4812; TTY: 711.



EMERGENCY FLOOD INFORMATION

- How to Prepare for a Flood**
kingcounty.gov/floodservices
- King County Emergency Alert**
kingcounty.gov/alert
- King County Emergency News Blog**
kcemergency.com
- King County Flood Alerts**
206-477-4899
kingcounty.gov/flood
- King County Flood Warning Center**
206-296-8200 or 800-945-9263
- King County Housing Repair Program**
Funding for major necessary housing repairs to low-income, eligible homeowners.
206-263-9095
kingcounty.gov/housingrepair
- King County Rd 24/7 Helpline**
206-477-8100 or 800-KC-Rds
- King County Rd Alerts**
kingcounty.gov/rdalert
- Metro Transit Disruptions**
kingcounty.gov/metro
- National Flood Insurance Program**
800-427-4661
floodsmart.gov
- Public Health Seattle & King County Septic Tank and Well Problems**
206-477-8050



The information included on this map has been compiled by King County from a variety of sources and is subject to change without notice. King County and the King County Flood Control District make no representations or warranties, expressed or implied, as to accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or rights to the use of such information. This document is not intended for use as a survey product. King County and the District shall not be liable for any general, special, indirect, incidental, or consequential damages including, but not limited to, lost revenues or lost profits resulting from the use or misuse of the information contained on this map. Any sale of this map or information on this map is prohibited except by written permission of King County.

EXPECTED FLOOD IMPACTS BY RIVER	RIVER cfs=cubic feet per second	RECENT PEAK	PEAK FLOOD	PHASE 1 - NO FLOODING. No flooding typically occurs.	PHASE 2 - MINOR FLOODING. King County Flood Warning Center staff are available 24 hours a day to provide assistance.	PHASE 3 - MODERATE FLOODING. King County Flood Patrol staff are dispatched to monitor flood protection facilities, such as levees.	PHASE 4 - SEVERE FLOODING. Flood patrols monitor conditions and the Flood Warning Center remains open.
	SOUTH FORK SKYKOMISH RIVER Flow at Town of Skykomish	20,400 cfs Feb. 2020	Flow data not available at this location before Oct. 2016.	6,000 cfs King County staff are on alert.	10,000 cfs – Riverbank erosion and flood debris problems are possible.	18,000 cfs – Riverbank erosion and flood debris are likely. Flooding likely to occur in low-lying areas near Baring and the west end of Timberlane Village.	27,000 cfs – Widespread flooding may include areas typically protected by levees.
	TOLT RIVER Flow near City of Carnation	13,800 cfs Jan. 2009	17,400 cfs Dec. 1959 Before construction of Tolt River Dam.	2,500 cfs King County staff are on alert.	3,500 cfs – Levee on south bank between Snoqualmie Valley Trail Bridge and Highway 203 Bridge may experience seepage.	5,000 cfs – Water across Tolt River Rd NE in the vicinity of the former San Souci neighborhood. Increased seepage and potential backyard flooding at levee on south bank between Snoqualmie Valley Trail Bridge and Highway 203 Bridge.	8,500 cfs – Levees on both banks may overtop between the Snoqualmie Valley Trail Bridge and Highway 203. Flows from seepage at the levee on the south bank between Snoqualmie Valley Trail Bridge and Highway 203 Bridge may cross NE 32nd St. Changes in channel position may occur between the upstream portion of Tolt River Rd NE/361st Avenue NE and the eastern boundary of Carnation.
	SNOQUALMIE RIVER Sum of North fork flows at: Middle fork South fork	45,680 cfs Oct. 2019	54,110 cfs Jan. 2009	6,000 cfs King County staff are on alert.	12,000 cfs – Rds that may overtop include Neal Rd SE, Reinig Rd, West Snoqualmie River Rd NE (Walker Rd), Snoqualmie Meadowbrook Rd, and Mill Pond Rd.	20,000 cfs – Flooding of varied depths may occur across the entire Snoqualmie Valley. Rds that may overtop include Fall City-Carnation Rd, West Snoqualmie River Rd SE between SE 24th St and NE Tolt Hill Rd, NE Tolt Hill Rd, and Novelty Flats Rd.	38,000 cfs – Some residential areas may experience dangerously high velocities and flooding of homes. Rds that may overtop include SE Reinig Rd, Moon Valley Rd, SE Fish Hatchery Rd, SE David Powell Rd, NE 124th St, and Woodinville-Duvall Rd.
	ISSAQUAH CREEK Height (stage) near Hobart Data: City of Issaquah	9.53 ft Feb. 2020	9.9 ft Nov. 1990	6.5 ft King County staff are on alert. Issaquah Public Works and Police Department are notified. Standby monitoring begins.	7.5 ft – Frequently flooded areas can expect flooding. A few St closures due to water on Rdway. Issaquah Public Works Operations Department begins flood-fighting activities.	8.5 ft – Considerable flooding on Issaquah Creek, Tibbetts Creek, and the East Fork of Issaquah Creek. Flooding possible in many creekside areas. Issaquah Public Works' full flood-fighting effort in effect.	9 ft – Extensive flooding, similar to February 2020, or greater throughout Issaquah and Tibbetts Creek valleys. Issaquah-Hobart Rd SE and SR 900 may close due to water and debris over Rdway. Maximum flood-fighting effort in effect.
	CEDAR RIVER Flow near Landsburg	7,590 cfs Feb. 2020	14,200 cfs Before construction of Masonry Dam.	1,800 cfs King County staff are on alert.	2,800 cfs – Rds may overtop and close, including SE 184th St and Lower Dorre Don Way SE.	4,200 cfs – Rds may overtop and close, including SR 169 near the intersection of Cedar Grove Rd SE, SE 184th St, Byers Rd SE, 216th Ave SE, SE 193rd St, SE 206th St, SE 207th St, Lower Dorre Don Way SE, and Dorre Don Way SE. Several of these Rds provide access to neighborhoods where residents may become trapped and require evacuation.	5,000 cfs – Rds may overtop and close, including SE Jones Rd near 156th Pl. SE, SR 169 near the intersection of Cedar Grove Rd SE, SE 184th St, Byers Rd SE, 216th Ave SE, SE 193rd St, SE 197th Pl, SE 206th St, SE 207th St, SE Bain Rd, SE 225th St, Dorre Don Ct SE, Lower Dorre Don Way SE, Dorre Don Way SE, SE 238th St, and 244th Ave SE. Several of these Rds provide access to neighborhoods where residents may become trapped and require evacuation. Deep and fast flows can create dangerous conditions throughout the floodplain.
	GREEN RIVER Measured or expected flow near City of Auburn	11,700 cfs* Feb. 2020 <small>*provisional</small>	28,100 cfs Nov. 1959 Before construction of Howard Hanson Dam.	5,000 cfs King County staff are on alert.	7,000 cfs – Lowland flooding in the valley upstream of the City of Auburn.	9,000 cfs – Flooding of varied depths occurs in the valley upstream of the City of Auburn and lower Mill Creek basin. Southeast Green Valley Rd and West Valley Rd may overtop.	12,000 cfs – Critical flood control levees may weaken from saturation. Sudden changes in flood conditions are possible, especially in levee-protected areas. These changes may include rapidly rising water, widespread inundation, Rd closures, and utility disruptions.
	WHITE RIVER Measured or expected flow released from Mud Mountain Dam	11,700 cfs Jan. 2009 Based on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' data from Mud Mountain Dam.	28,000 cfs Dec. 1933 Reported at White River near Buckley before construction of Mud Mountain Dam.	4,000 cfs King County staff are on alert.	5,000 cfs – Overbank flooding is possible upstream of the A-St Bridge in the Cities of Pacific and Auburn. Overbank flooding is likely to occur in Pacific near Government Canal. High water will likely occur along the temporary flood protection barriers.	7,000 cfs – High river water levels will occur along the temporary flood protection barriers in the City of Pacific. Overtopping flows will likely occur at Government Canal and Butte Ave and upstream of the A-St Bridge in the Cities of Pacific and Auburn. Red Creek area residents may experience dangerously high velocities, debris flows, and residential flooding.	9,000 cfs – Dangerously high velocity and debris flows may occur throughout the river system. Overbank flooding is expected in the Cities of Pacific and Auburn. Portions of the temporary flood protection barriers may overtop. Damage may occur at the fish hatchery near the City of Enumclaw. Floodwater is likely to overtop SR 410 upstream of Mud Mountain Dam near Greenwater.